

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/528,297 Confirmation No.: 6615
Applicant: Guido Ribi
Filing Date: 03/16/2005
Art Unit: 3781
Examiner: Christopher Brian McKinley
Docket No.: KAR 008
Customer No.: 39232

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO ELECTION/RESTRICTIONS REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on 07/26/2007, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Response to the Restrictions/Election Requirement begins on page 2 of this paper.

RESPONSE TO THE RESTRICTIONS/ELECTION REQUIREMENT

In the Restrictions Requirement

In the Office Action dated July 26, 2007, the Examiner has requested a restriction among the following groups of claims:

- Group 1: Claims 1-31;
- Group 2: Claims 32-34 and 38-42; and
- Group 3: Claims 35-37.

Applicant hereby requests examination of claims 1-31, withdrawing claims 32-34, 38-42, 35-37 from examination at the present time.

This election is made without traverse. Applicant notes that while the Examiner has discussed 42 claims in the Office Action, there are 43 claims in the application, following the Preliminary Amendment dated March 14, 2005. Claim 43, however, is believed to fall within Group 2 and is, therefore, withdrawn from examination.

A. In the Election Requirement

In the Office Action dated July 26, 2007, the Examiner also has requested an election among the following eight species.

- A. Figs.1, 2, 5, 14-16
- B. Fig. 4
- C. Fig. 6
- D. Fig. 7
- E. Fig. 17
- F. Fig. 18
- G. Fig. 21

H. Figs. 22-24.

The Examiner has held that claim 1 is generic.

Applicant hereby elects and requests examination of species (A), corresponding to Figs. 1, 2, 5, 14-16.

Applicant further traverses the present election requirement as to species C (Figs. 6) and species F (Fig. 18). The constructive features of species C and F are believed to contain a sufficient number of common elements with elected species A that no undue burden would be applied to the Examiner by examining species A, C and F concurrently. Therefore, reconsideration of the present election requirement as to species C and F is respectfully requested.

Applicant reserves the right to rejoin the claims related to the non-elected species in the application upon allowance of the claims related to the elected species.

Conclusion

In view of the amendments and remarks submitted herein, Applicant submits that the present application is now in condition for examination. Should the Examiner require any additional information, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone, fax or e-mail.

Dated: September 23, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

/Franco A. Serafini/

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